

# EXILES FROM NEW YORK ASK PUZZLING QUESTIONS



Fraunces's Tavern, built in 1719, restored and now owned by Sons of the Revolution, southeast corner Broad and Pearl streets.



Emma Willard.



Fort Cralo, Rensselaer-on-Hudson, where "Yankee Doodle" was written.

EXILES from New York who have created the Empire State Society of Chicago and have kept a close and cautious watch against illegals recently launched a prize contest to promote a knowledge of the history, geography and traditions of their native Commonwealth. The society's purpose evoked approbation in the East, but when some of the questions were made public approval shifted to perplexity.

Many native New Yorkers have been bewildered by the questions and have begun to believe they are only mass-queraders compared with the distant Cock county colonists. Some have been heard to give an excuse for their ignorance—judged by the contest questions—that perhaps the Chicago-New York exiles have selected such queries as will reveal what is greatest and best in the State according to Illinois standards. At any rate it is evident that a man sporting a New York badge in Chicago may ask many weird and wonderful questions concerning the Empire State that the lifetime resident here will not be able to answer. Here is the knowledge test list:

1. Where is the Milburn House and with what event is it associated?

2. What happened at Dunkirk, May 15, 1813?

3. Identify the following well-known New Yorkers: Roswell P. Flower, Clement C. Moore, Marshall Lefferts, William C. Moore, Marshall Lefferts, William C. Moore.

4. In what famous work of fiction is the story of the Bloody Pond massacre related?

5. In what great work of fiction does the character of Anthony Van Corlaer appear?

6. What great religious movement originated at Palmyra?

7. Whose monument stands at Stone Arabia and what occurrence does it commemorate?

8. From what does the town of Painted Post derive its name?

9. Name one person of national reputation whose name is prominently associated with each of the following places: Auburn, Kinderhook, Tarrytown, North Elba, Yonkers.

10. Relate the history of the "Yankee Doodle" house at Rensselaer.

11. To what natural advantage is attributable the commercial supremacy of Rochester?

12. Give the name and work of a woman of Troy who made an important contribution to the cause of higher education of woman.

13. Who was "the Poet of the Revolution" and where did he reside?

14. When and where was the New York City Chamber of Commerce organized?

15. What building once stood at the northeast corner of Wall and Nassau streets, New York city, and with what great event is it associated?

These questions were laid before a number of New Yorkers by a reporter for THE SUN. Doctors, lawyers, clergymen, Congressmen, Senators, Assemblymen, candidates, suffragists and municipal office holders were all tackled. Some of them fell down lamentably—their names will be withheld.

As a rule men supposed to be as well informed as the average were able to answer offhand questions 2, 4 and 11. Here are the answers:

Question 1. Concerning R. P. Flower, C. C. Moore, Marshall Lefferts and William Cooper—Roswell Pettibone Flower was born in Jefferson county, New York, August 7, 1835, and died at Eastport, L. I., May 12, 1899. He began his business and political career at Watertown. He attracted the attention of Samuel J. Tilden and through this association later was named as chairman of the Democratic State convention in 1877. He was Congressman three times, and in 1891 was elected Governor of New York. He was well known as a banker and a philanthropist.

Clement Clarke Moore was born in New York July 15, 1779, and died at Newport, July 19, 1863. He had a wide reputation as a scholar and a poet. He made a large gift to the General Theological Seminary in 1818, with the proviso that the buildings to be erected should be on his property in the then Chelsea Village, Ninth and Tenth avenues, between Twentieth and Twenty-first streets. They were so erected. He was professor of Biblical learning there and afterward of oriental and Greek literature. He published a Hebrew and Greek lexicon. He is best known as author of "Twelve the Night Before Christmas."

Marshall Lefferts, long Colonel of the Seventh Regiment, was born on Long Island, January 15, 1821, and died just as he was starting for the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia in 1876. He marched down Broadway at the head of his regiment when war broke out in 1861 and presented a martial figure that was long remembered.

William Cooper was a stickler. As a last resort it was referred to Stut McDermott of City Hall Park, who probably knows more political and civic fact and folklore about New York than any other man now living.

"William Cooper?" repeated Stut McDermott. "Why, sure I know about him. That wasn't his right first name. You mean Jacob Cooper, who was Assemblyman from the Fifteenth New York city district in 1882. Some used to call him Bill because he didn't like the nickname of Jake. Sure I know him, and a fine up to the game fellow he was. Well known enough to be known in Chicago? I should say he was, and in Montreal, too, for all that. What's getting checked up against him now? Better go slow on the no-no, for I always found him O. K. and it may be he has passed on to the last hay rest." Mr. McDermott's opinion is given for what it is worth.

Question 4. The Bloody Pond Massacre—James Fenimore Cooper's tale, "The Last of the Mohicans," contains the account of Bloody Pond, as follows:

"See," he [Natty Bumppo] said, pointing through the trees toward a spot where a little basin of water reflected the stars from its placid bosom, "here is the 'bloody pond'; and I am on the ground that I have not only often traveled, but over which I have fought the enemy from the rising to the setting sun."

## If You Can Answer Their Weird and Wonderful Test List Concerning History of This State You Are Eligible for Membership in Their Organization, the Empire State Society of Chicago

"Ha! [Heyward said] that sheet of dull and dreary water, there, is the sepulchre of the brave men who fell in the contest! I have heard it named, but never have I stood on its banks before. It was a convenient, and I trust will prove a peaceful, grave for a soldier!"

Question 11. Rochester's Natural Advantage—The city of Rochester is situated on the Genesee River, in Monroe county, New York. There are three falls of the river within the limits of the city. Manufacturers have been able in the past to utilize the heavy rush of water power to a great advantage at comparatively small cost. Since its settlement in 1812 and its incorporation in 1834 the commercial expansion of the municipality has been due in a great measure to these natural advantages.

The other questions were more puzzling to most New Yorkers. Here are the answers:

Question 1. The Milburn House—President William McKinley died at the house of John G. Milburn in Buffalo, at 2:15 A. M., September 14, 1901. He had been taken there shortly after he was shot by Col. George A. Brown of the Pan-American Exposition.

Question 15. The Building at Wall and Nassau Streets—The old City Hall at Wall and Nassau streets was altered for use as the first Capitol of the United States at an expense of \$65,000, advanced by New York's wealthier citizens during the winter of 1788 and 1789.

Question 5. Anthony Van Corlaer—Anthony Van Corlaer and his sons appear in Washington Irving's "Knickerbocker History of New York." Chapter IV, says:

"Now it came to pass that about this time there lived in the Manhattan a jolly, robustous trumpeter named Anthony Van Corlaer, famous for his long wind, and who, as the story goes, could twang so potently on his instrument that the effect upon all within

hearing was like that ascribed to the Scotch bagpipe when it sings right lustily for the nose."

Question 10. The "Yankee Doodle" House—Who really wrote "Yankee Doodle"—either words or music—is not positively known, according to many authorities. Therefore it cannot be told positively where it was written.

There is a "Yankee Doodle" house at Rensselaer-on-Hudson. It was used as a British army headquarters in the French and Indian war, so it is said. The author of the song is declared to have been Dr. Richard Shuckburgh, who died at Schenectady August 16, 1778. He was a surgeon in the British army. Another version is that the song did not really originate until 1815. The tune is the same as the old folk song "Lucy Locket lost her pocket; Kitty Fisher found it," which is said to have preceded it many years.

Question 6. Palmyra's Religion—Here the exile compiler of questions is wrong in his premises. He clearly re-

fers to the origination of Mormonism, but it did not have its inception at Palmyra. The parents of Joseph Smith, the founder of Mormonism, removed from Sharon, Vt., in 1816 to Palmyra, in Wayne, then Ontario, county. In 1819 they removed again to Manchester, six miles from Palmyra.

Smith said in 1838 that on the night of September 21, 1823, the angel Moroni appeared to him three times, and told him the Bible of the western continent was buried on a hill called Cumorah, now known as Mormon Hill. This hill is near Manchester. Smith said he dug up a stone box on the hill containing the gold plates of the Mormon scripture. The church was formally organized April 6, 1820, at Fayette, Seneca county. So neither the digging up of the Mormon bible nor the organization of the Mormon church was at Palmyra.

Question 7. Monument at Stone Arabia—Again this question is of doubtful accuracy. At the New York Historical Society it was said that the records did not show the existence of a monument at Stone Arabia in the past, and if one has been erected it is of recent date. But aside from the monument end of the question, it is a fact that on October 19, 1780, there was a battle fought between the Colonists on the one hand and the Indians under Sir John Johnson, son of the famous Sir William Johnson.

Question 12. The Troy Woman Educator—This refers of course to Emma Willard, who in 1814 submitted to Gov. Clinton the manuscript of an article entitled, "A Plan for Improving Female Education." This attracted such attention to her and her aims that she was able in 1821 to establish at Watford, N. Y., a girls' seminary. The State contributed to its support. In 1823 the school was removed to Troy and has been a prized institution of the city ever since.

Question 2. What Happened at Dunkirk—There was a celebration at Dunkirk about the time mentioned in the question for the purpose of testing Dunkirk whop and hurrah over getting railroad facilities. The Erie Railroad entered the town and in consequence there was a celebration. But as an event that has a place in New York history it takes a strain on the imagination to rate it so high.

Question 13. The Poet of the Revolution—Philip Freneau, who was born in New York in 1752 and died in 1832, was first called the "Poet of the Revolution" by Prof. F. H. Pattee and the appellation has stuck.

Question 14. The Chamber of Commerce—The New York Chamber of Commerce was founded Tuesday, April 5, 1768. John Conzer was the first president and Anthony Van Dam secretary. The original meeting place was at Bolton & Siegel's public house, then a popular resort at the corner of Broad and Pearl streets. Afterward the spot became famous as the tavern of Sam Fraunces and the scene of Washington's farewell to his officers.

Question 9. Names associated with

Auburn, Kinderhook, Tarrytown, North Elba and Yonkers—Martin Van Buren, the eighth President of the United States, made Kinderhook more prominent than it might otherwise have been.

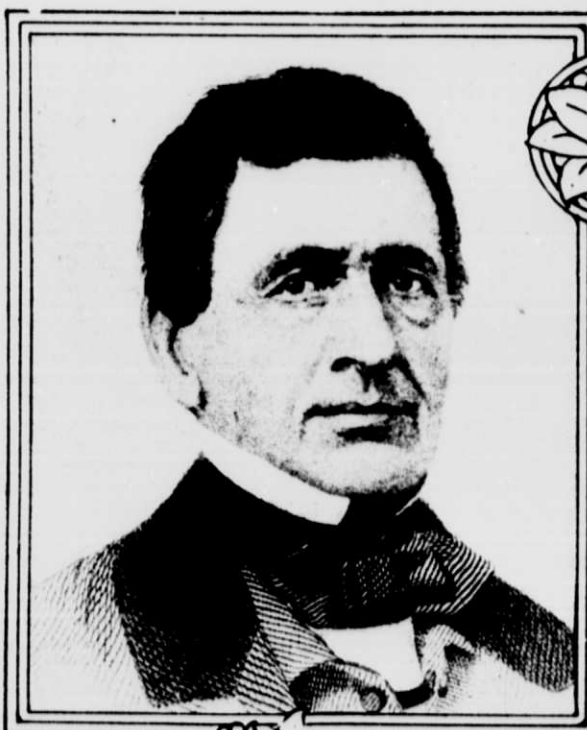
Tarrytown is famous both in fact and fiction according as the exile compiler wishes it to be considered. It was on Broadway, Tarrytown, that Major John Andre was captured while riding to New York to turn over the papers relating to the surrender of West Point by Benedict Arnold. The monument to Paulding, Williams and Van Wart, his captors, stands there on Broadway, very near the brook where they were passing cards as Andre rode up. The name of Tarrytown rests on the "Legend of Sleepy Hollow," by Washington Irving. Irving lived at Sunnyside, or three miles to the south, and there is a village or hamlet named after him, Irvington. So it must be Ichabod Crane who fruitlessly wooed Katrina Tassel and was chased over the Sleepy Hollow bridge, near the old Dutch church, by Brom Bones, the Headless Horseman, that makes Tarrytown famous—of Irving or Andre does it not?

Samuel J. Tilden, the "Sage of Groton," lived a short distance to the north of Yonkers. He could hardly be called a Yonkers man, and yet—what is there left for Yonkers in the way of "national reputation" if Tilden isn't the man?

At Yonkers is the old Phillips or Phillips of Philipse Manor house, where George Washington visited after the Battle of Red Bank. The famous Secretary of State in President Lincoln's Cabinet, lived in Auburn and died there October 10, 1872.

John Brown, the abolitionist, had a farm at North Elba and was buried there after his execution.

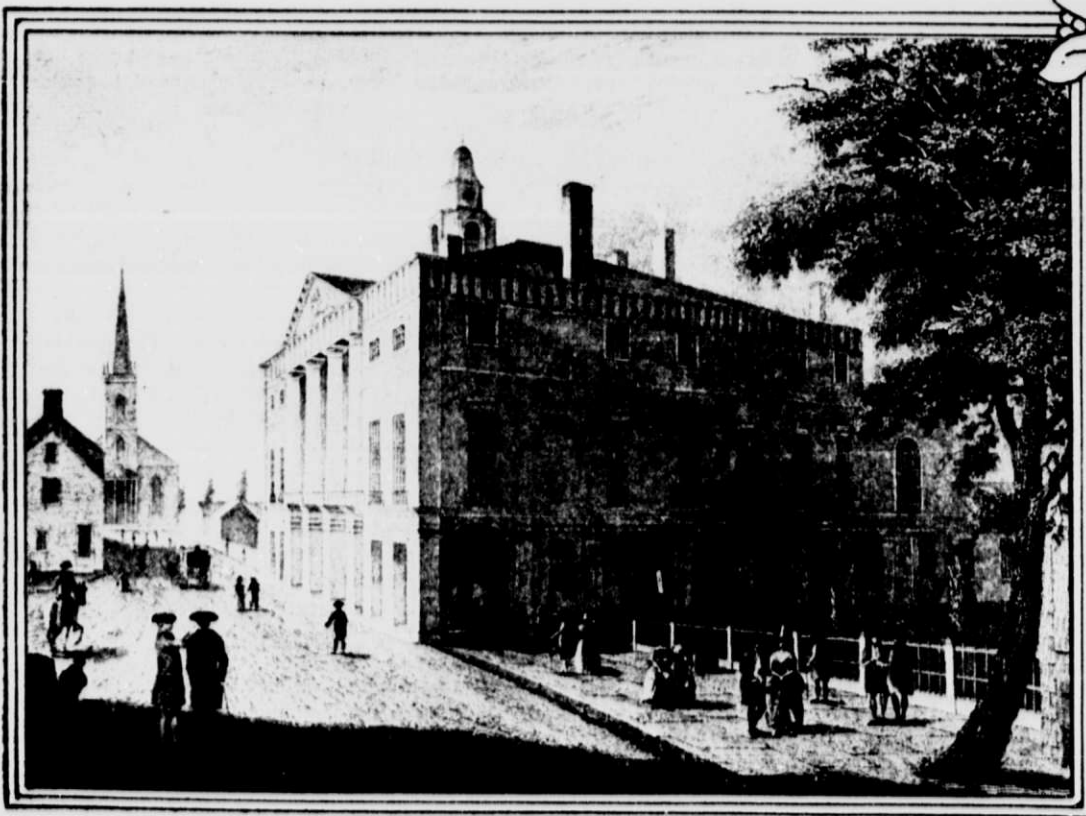
Question 8. Painted Post—There is a drummer between New York and Seneca who hasn't at some stage of his drumming career made game of the name of the town of Painted Post. After everybody laughs you may be the query, "But I wonder where he got its name?" Here is the story. In the summer of 1779 the English and Indians under a loyalist, McDonald, returned north from a raid by way of Pine Creek, the Toga and the Tugoe. They brought with them a wounded and some prisoners to at Freely's Fort. Under the influence of the Toga and the Tugoe Capt. Montour, a half-breed, a noted war chief, died of his wounds. He was the son of Frontenac, the famous Indian Queen. Catherine was buried by the river side and his grave was placed a post and painted various symbols and names. This monument became known as the Painted Post and was a mark often visited by the chiefs of the Six Nations. It stood for many years after the removal of the country. Finally it disappeared from the butt and was preserved in the barroom of a tavern and there it disappeared. Some say it was away during a freshet.



Joseph Smith, Mormon.



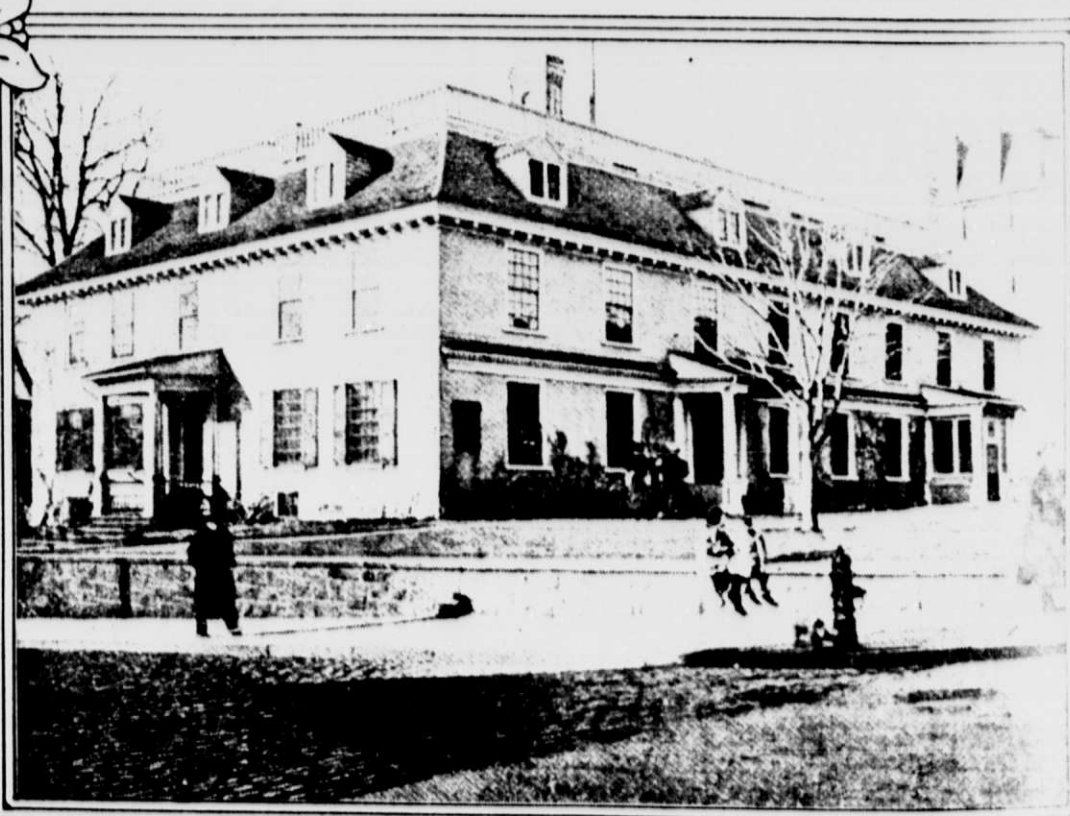
Washington Irving.



Old City Hall at Wall and Nassau streets, first Capitol of the United States.



Old Dutch Church at Sleepy Hollow, Tarrytown, of which Washington Irving wrote, and in the cemetery of which he is buried.



Philipse Manor House at Yonkers, where Washington visited.